

Raised Bill No. 5322: AN ACT CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A
HUMAN SERVICES PERMIT AND A REQUIREMENT THAT SCHOOL
SOCIAL WORKERS CONDUCT HOME VISITS DURING THE SCHOOL
YEAR

Education Committee

Submitted By: Margaret Borelli, LCSW

I oppose raised bill no. 5322: an act concerning the creation of a human services permit and a requirement that school social workers conduct home visits during the school year.

I have been a school social worker for 20 years. My education and training as a master's level social worker provided me with the knowledge and experience needed to do my job well. Without the advanced training that a master's degree offers I would not be able to do my job as efficiently and effectively as I do.

As a school social worker I am available to all of the students in my building. At any given point in time I have about 130 students on my caseload who I see regularly. If I were required to conduct two home visits for each student I would not have time to see the students when they are in school. Also I work on a teacher's contract which means school hours so home visits when students are in school would not be effective. As a member of the school attendance team I conduct home visits when determined necessary with our family school liaison and school counselors or administrators. When a team conducts a home visit we are able to effectively determine needs of the student and the family and develop plans to meet those needs. Also I am one member of the counseling team that provides social and emotional support to students. School psychologists

and school counselors also provide social and emotional support to students throughout the school year.

To reiterate, I oppose raised bill no. 5322: an act concerning the creation of a human services permit and a requirement that school social workers conduct home visits during the school year.